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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract: After 60 years of the independence of India, women prove them that they are successful in every field as well as the men are. During the last six decades since independence, there has been phenomenal development of education system in India resulting in the creation of one of the largest education systems of the world. After independence, higher education sector attracted greater attention of the native government than elementary and secondary education sectors. Despite improvements during the last twenty to thirty years, access to higher education remains a problem for women in the countries.

Key words: phenomenal, education, humanities, Literacy.

INTRODUCTION :

While women have must equal opportunity to access the higher education. Poor access to higher education is accompanied by under-representation of women in science and technology and a clustering of women in the traditional female studies of arts, humanities, languages, education, nursing and medicine. In many countries, women's enrolment also decreases as they move up in the higher education system.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER:

The following are the objectives of the present papers:

1. To study the enrollment position of women and participation in various course of Higher Education
2. To study the facility provide and efforts by UGC towards for encouraging women in Higher Education

LITERACY AND SCHOOLING OF WOMEN

In ancient period of India, records show that women have enjoyed a high status in the society. They were provided same educational opportunities comparable to men. The tradition has continued for long period. Many educated women sometimes outshined men and challenged them in debates on crucial literary, philosophical and social issues (Nurullah and Naik, 1943). The learned women were known as Brahnavadini (women having attained the knowledge of the Supreme Being) or Mantravid (having the knowledge of mantras) or Pandita (learned women). Even during the Muslim period many women made a mark in the field of education.

Although in the Vedic period women had access to education in India, but they gradually lost this right. However, during the British period various socioreligious movements led by some eminent persons emphasized women's education in India. Social reformers like Mahatma

Jyotiba Phule, Periyar and Babasaheb Ambedkar took various initiatives to make education available to deprived sections of the society including women. However, women's education got a boost after independence and the new government took effective measures in this regard. Women's education in a society plays an important role in the overall socioeconomic development and help in improving the quality of life in the family setup. Educated women tend to promote education of their girl children and provide them guidance in future. Moreover, educated women help in the reduction of infant mortality rate and healthy growth of the population.

UGC'S EFFORTS FOR WOMEN EDUCATION:

Gender parity index has shown continuous improvement over the years as a result of Government's efforts to increase women participation. Women enrolment in higher education increase every year it saw that highest in the faculty of Arts followed by Science and Commerce / Management. Women representation is increasing, though still low in faculties like, law, medicine, education, veterinary science etc. UGC have launched a number of schemes to achieve gender parity. Day care centers in universities and colleges provide day care facility on demand basis for children of 3 months to 6 years of age. UGC is also implementing Indra Gandhi Scholarship for single girl child for pursuing higher and technical education. Construction of girls' hostel for colleges is supported by UGC. There is also a scheme for the Development of Women's Studies in universities and colleges. The primary role of these centers is to promote knowledge simulation and transmission through teaching and research.

Following table no. 1 shows that the how many women enrolled for the higher education and per hundred men in 1950-51 the 40,000 women enrolled for the higher

education, only fourteen women take higher education per hundred men and the ratio is very poor but in 2010-11 there are as per UGC report total 70, 48,000women were registered herself for higher education and the per hundred men ratio is seventy one is not good and equal but it is satisfactory by the comparison of 1950-51

Table 01: Women Students Per Hundred Men Students

Year	Total Women Enrolment (000s)	Women Enrolment Per Hundred Men
1950-51	40	14
2005-06	4466	68
2007-08	5025	68
2008-09	5649	70
2009-10	6080	71
2010-11	7048	71

Source: Annual Report (U.G.C.)

Graph 01: Women Students per Hundred Men Students

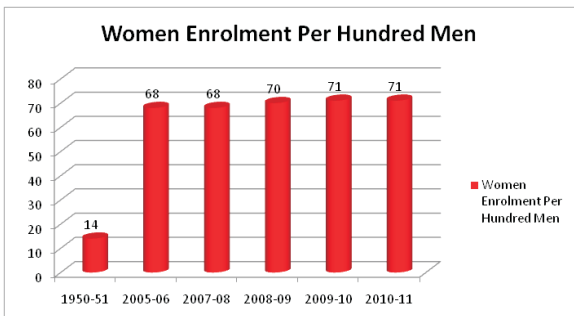
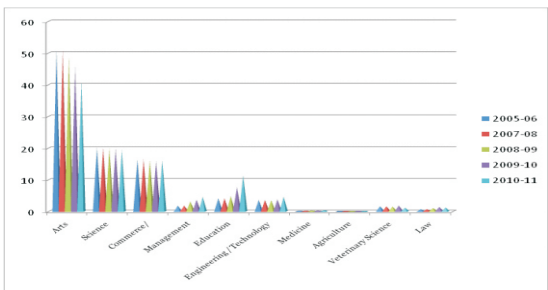


Table 02: Women Enrolment Faculty-wise (2005-2011)

Sr.No	Faculty	Percentage of Total Women Enrolment				
		2005-06	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
01	Arts	51.01	50.99	49.08	45.66	41.21
02	Science	20.18	20.18	19.99	19.98	19.41
03	Commerce/Management	16.46	16.47	16.21	15.91	16.12
04	Education	01.85	01.85	03.20	03.70	04.60
05	Engineering / Technology	04.16	04.17	04.90	07.69	11.36
06	Medicine	03.64	03.65	03.59	03.86	04.68
07	Agriculture	00.24	00.24	00.27	00.27	00.36
08	Veterinary Science	00.08	00.08	00.08	00.07	00.10
09	Law	01.64	01.64	01.58	01.93	01.19
10	Others	00.74	00.73	01.10	01.47	01.24
	Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Annual Report (UGC)

Graph02: Women Enrolment Faculty-wise (2005-2011)



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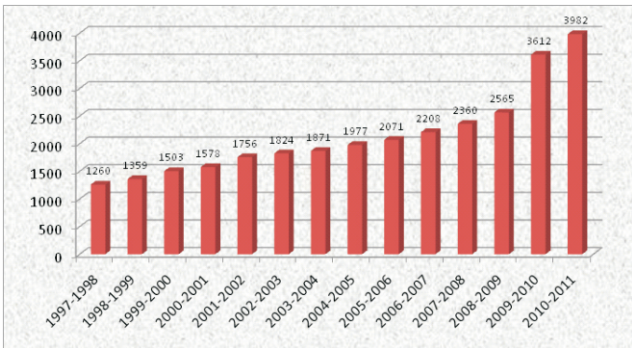
Table and Graph no.2 show the faculty wise enrollment of the women since 2005-06 to 2010-11. The data shows that the in last five year approach towards professional courses like medical, engineering, education etc is increasing than traditional faculty like Arts, Commerce and Science

Table No 03: Number of Women Colleges (1997-98 to 2010-11)

Sr. No.	Year	Number of Women College
01	1997-1998	1260
02	1998-1999	1359
03	1999-2000	1503
04	2000-2001	1578
05	2001-2002	1756
06	2002-2003	1824
07	2003-2004	1871
08	2004-2005	1977
09	2005-2006	2071
10	2006-2007	2208
11	2007-2008	2360
12	2008-2009	2565
13	2009-2010	3612
14	2010-2011	3982*

Source: Annual Report (UGC) {* Provisional and includes Nursing colleges for Women.}

Graph No 03: Number of Women Colleges (1997-98 to 2010-11)



Above table show the number of Women College in India starts from 1971-72 to 2010-11 in the year 1971-72 there were 1260 Women Colleges in India is increase up to 3982 college in the year 2010-11 but it seems the slow process of stating new colleges for women.

CONCLUSIONS:

The following conclusions were drawn from the study
It is concluded that the participation in higher education of women are increasing every year
The significant of increase shows in the awareness about higher education by the women
UGC giving the attention toward the women for their increasing participation in higher education but they still need to give more attention toward that
UGC need to launch more and effective schemes & formats for the women to the attraction toward higher education
Table 02 shows the percentage of women faculty wise and it

is concluded that the highest women are attracted Arts followed by Science & commerce / Management but now a days the attraction of women are increasing to join the professional course like Education, Engineering / Technology, law, medicine& veterinary science, nut it is not sufficient

It is concluded that it is necessary to divert the women's interest towards medicine, Education, Engineering / Technology& Law

It is Concluded from study that new women college are opened every year but number of the collegesare not sufficient

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